

(d) Constant efforts continue to be made to bring about a qualitative improvement in the programme format of Door-darshan so as to sustain the interest of its viewers.

Languages and Dialects in India

1625. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether specific direction had been given to the census enumerating officers to record all the language and dialects as spoken by various people;

(b) if so, the total number of persons speaking Maithili language as recorded in the census for 1951, 1961, 1971 and 1981;

(c) whether any secret directive has been issued not to publish the data & enumerated Maithili, Bhojpuri, Rajasthani and some other languages;

(d) if so, the steps being taken to undo the same by publishing the data; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of persons who had returned "Maithili" as their mother-tongue in 1951 and 1961 Censuses in the country was 97,757 and 4,984,811 respectively. In 1971 and 1981 Censuses separate figures for "Maithili" have not been published as persons returning "Maithili" as their mother-tongue have been grouped under "Hindi" language.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply to "c" above.

(e) On the basis of the linguistic information readily available or in the light of the studies already made, it was decided to group some mother-tongues under the relevant languages. The grouping so done has been indicated in the fly-leaf to the published Census tables giving mother-tongue data for the 1971 and 1981 Census. This has been done wherever the strength of the identifiable mother-tongue grouped under the relevant language was 10,000 or more at all India level. According to this grouping, Maithili, Bhojpuri, Rajasthani and some other mother-tongues have been grouped under "Hindi" language.

[*Translation*]

Preposition of Press Release by PIB

1626. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The languages, besides English in which the press releases and other press material are prepared by the Press Information Bureau;

(b) whether Press material in Hindi is prepared several days late; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) The Press Information Bureau headquarters issue Press Releases in English, Hindi and Urdu. The Regional/Branch Offices issue releases in English and the local languages.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. PIB normally issues Press Releases simultaneously, except in